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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/524,392	11/18/2005	Werner Jacob	JACOB W ET AL 3 PCT	6165
25889	7590	04/11/2008		
COLLARD & ROE, P.C. 1077 NORTHERN BOULEVARD ROSLYN, NY 11576			EXAMINER BINDA, GREGORY JOHN	
			ART UNIT 3679	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 04/11/2008	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/524,392

Applicant(s)

JACOB ET AL.

Examiner

Greg Binda

Art Unit

3679

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 March 2008.
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 5 and 8-20 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☒ Claim(s) 13 and 14 is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 5, 8-12 and 15-20 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SI-108)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____

1. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Election/Restrictions

2. Applicant elected with traverse the sliding articulation shown in Figs. 5 & 6 (Species III) in the reply filed on August 20, 2007.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

4. Claims 15-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Applicant has not pointed out where the following limitations are supported, nor does there appear to be a written description of the limitations in the application as originally filed:
 - a. Claims 15 & 19: "the shape of the inner and outer hub raceways differs from the shape of the centering grooves"
 - b. Claims 16 & 20: "the size of the cross section of the centering grooves is smaller than the size of the cross section of the inner and outer raceways"

- c. Claim 17: “the cage is pivotable with respect to only one of the outer hub or the inner hub”.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. Claims 5, 8-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cermak et al, US 2001/0018369 (Cermak). Figs. 1-4 show a sliding articulation comprising:

an outer hub 3 that encloses a cavity 4 and has raceways 5 in its inner surface, which extend parallel to the axis ‘x’ of the sliding articulation;

an inner hub 1 accommodated in the cavity, which has raceways 10 on its outer surface, which extend parallel to the axis of the sliding articulation and lie opposite the raceways of the outer hub, and accommodate a ball 15 together with these, in pairs in each instance; and

a cage 16 disposed between the outer hub and the inner hub, which guides the balls in an axial direction,

wherein the inner hub is freely displaceable relative to the outer hub (see first sentence of paragraph 0032) in the axial direction, between a first stop 6 and a second stop 9 over a first distance by means of rolling the balls in the raceways (see second sentence of paragraph 0032) and displaceable over an additional distance by means of sliding of the balls in the raceways (see paragraph 0033, lines 7+). As evident from paragraph 0034 and Fig. 4, the movement of the balls 15 is limited not only by the stops 6 & 9 in the outer hub 3, but instead, at least by one split ring 11, 12 inserted in the raceway 10 of the inner hub 1.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 13 & 14 are allowed.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments filed March 3, 2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive:
 - a. Applicant argues that Cermak fails to anticipate the claims because it shows more than a single ball in each pair of outer and inner raceways. However, the claims do not preclude the presence of multiple balls in each pair of raceways. The claims only require that each ball of the plurality of balls be accommodated in a pair of raceways, a feature clearly shown in Cermak.
 - b. Applicant argues that Cermak fails to anticipate the claims because the joint is prohibited from any angular movement. However, an angular movement capability is not recited in the claims.

Conclusion

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after

the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Greg Binda whose telephone number is (571) 272-7077. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:30 am to 7:00 pm with alternate Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel P. Stodola can be reached on (571) 272-7087. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Greg Binda/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3679